CLINTON HILL
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
BULLETIN OF CLINTON HILL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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GUS HARRISON TO SPEAK - MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, NOV. 6TH

By a parent at Madison Avenue School who wanted her name withheld - -

The P.T.A. of the Madison Ave. School picketed in front of the school on October 7 and again on Oct. 14.

This demonstration was in protest against over-crowding of classrooms. There is an average of 39-43 per class.

Some children have no desks.

The parents are very much concerned because they know their children are being denied a well-rounded education.

The parents also realize that the teachers are overburdened.

The P.T.A. took its appeal to the Board of Education at night on Oct. 27 in the Board meeting at 31 Green St.

The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council supported the P.T.A. in this demonstration by providing and handing out hundreds of leaflets and asking members to picket, too.

(more on schools - inside)

BACK RENT STRIKES & SCHOOLS FIGHT

At a meeting of the CHNC assembly on Sept. 25 at the Bergen St. Library, CHNC members heard Walter Thabit, planning consultant outline his report on "Reducing Unemployment in Newark."

Mr. Thabit's report was prepared for the Newark Summer Employment Project, in which the CHNC took part.

After a discussion of the report, the assembly voted to support Mr. Thabit's recommendations that there be a massive program to improve Newark's schools.

The body also voted to approve council support of the rent strike as a means of getting landlords to fix up their properties.

In the debate on rent strikes, it was brought out that the absentee landlords were the biggest violators, not homeowners. #

BLIGHT FIGHT, AMENDMENT ON AGENDA OF MEETING AT 750 CLINTON AVENUE

The general assembly of the CHNCouncil will meet on Friday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. in the brand new Leaguer Building at 750 Clinton Avenue.

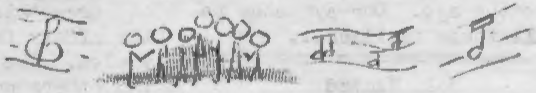
All block-branch officers and delegates and all CHNC members are invited to attend.

The featured speaker will be Augustus Harrison, president of the N. J. Conference of NAACP Branches and a leader in the nationally famous Engelwood Movement to desegregate the public schools.

Mr. Harrison will outline the present status of the school integration fight in New Jersey.

Also on the agenda are 1)a proposed resolution that would keep the CHNC in the fight against the light industrial project and 2) a proposed Constitutional amendment that would change the council's policy-making setup. (See inside pages for details.)

Because 1965 council dues of $1.00 are now payable, members are urged to renew membership at the assembly meeting. Dues paid now are good till December 1965.



Clinton Hillers and people all over Newark are looking forward to the concert by VOICES, INC. on Nov. 20 at the new Barringer High School.

Besides being one of the first groups to use the sparkling modernistic auditorium, the CHNC is bringing to Newark a top-notch singing and dramatic group. VOICES is both an entertaining and an enriching experience.

All proceeds will go to CHNC operations, especially to paying legal and planning fees in connection with the blight fight.

So don't delay! Call BI 3-6880 or send your $3.00 to 26 Shanley Ave. for tickets. Seats in a reserved section at $6.00 are also available. #

Still Opposes Industry Plan

The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council has announced that it will continue to fight urban renewal plans for an industrial park in the lower Clinton Hill section.

The CHNC announcement follows a U.S. Supreme Court refusal to review lower court rulings upholding a 1961 blight declaration for a 74-block area bounded by Bergen Street and Belmont, 17th and Watson Avenues.

Members of the council, at its Nov. 6 meeting at the Leaguers, Inc., 750 Clinton Ave., will be asked to approve a resolution to "fight for a plan that would bring benefit, not hardship and dislocation, to the people and businessmen of Clinton Hill."

In other action, the council announced its continued support of the Madison Avenue School PTA, which is seeking smaller class sizes.

Personals

Mrs. L.C. Brannon of Treacy Ave. lost a sister this summer. ...Mrs. O. Roundtree of Baldwin Ave. was recovered from an illness... Marvin Durham, Jr. is convalescing from rheumatic heart condition. The Durhams live on Baldwin Ave... Also, Mrs. A. Adams' sister passed away several months ago. Our sympathy to all these families...

Help Wanted

HOUSEKEEPER

Children - Light Housekeeping

Call 923-7549 after 5 p.m.

(Equal Opp.)

An Editorial

Thanks - and Unity

The legal part of the "blight" fight is over. A new kind of fight is ahead if we wish to keep the bulldozers and land speculators out of Clinton Hill.

All of us owe a debt of gratitude to the 7 neighbors who put their names to the lawsuit. The Fraziers, the Websters, the Winters, and Mrs. Lyons deserve our thanks.

By their action, supported by our council through our SAVE OUR HOMES committee, we have gained 3 vital years.

The civil rights movement is now more mature, more aware of the connection between Urban Renewal and people's rights than it was 3 years ago.

Even though it is, frankly, a johnny-come-lately to the fight against light industrial clearance in Clinton Hill, the civil rights movement is a welcome ally, if an ally it wishes to be.

For now is a time for unity - not division.

In housing, in schools, in jobs, Clinton Hill and all of Newark faces grim days ahead.

Taxes and rents are spiralling. Buildings are being milked dry. It's a constant fight to keep up city services.

If each group goes its own way; if one group raids another or scrambles for shabby headlines and phoney credits - then only the powers-that-be who are after our homes, businesses, and land will profit.

The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council, certainly, will not abdicate the position of leadership which it voluntarily assumed in the spring of 1961 in this fight.

It will work only on the basis of mutual respect and integrity, and willingly work, with other organizations in this burning issue in our city's life.

This is the precondition for real unity. #

AROUND THE HILL

The Farley Ave. block-branch held a bus-ride for 50 children this summer. Supported by the block treasury, the affair featured games, a cook-out, and adult supervision. The block is working to get dead trees removed and others pruned.

Alternate-side-of-the-street parking has finally been set up on blocks east of Bergen St. The council began this fight in 1958. Now pressure is in order to get it extended west of Seymour Ave.

The 14-block rehabilitation program west of Bergen St. is still crawlong along. Property is being bought by the government but the park area is about the same.#

Proposed Amendment to Council Constitution

1. Delete By-Law III, Sec. 2 ("The Assembly shall consist of the elected Council-wide officers and two delegates from each block-branch and member institution").
2. Add a new By-Law III, Sec. 2: "The Assembly shall consist of all bona-fide members of the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council, and policy shall be made on a "one man-one vote" basis. 3. Add a new By-Law III, Sec. 6: "The Assembly shall meet at least once every two weeks."

Presented to Assembly meeting Friday Sept. 25, 1964, by Louise Patterson, Hunterdon St.; Louis Adams, Hunterdon St., Bessie Smith, Hillside Avenue; Harold Esannason, Hunterdon St.

To be discussed and voted on at the Assembly meeting, Friday, November 6, 1964. #

Jobs Available

MAIE or FEMALE, age 21 and up. Experienced in community affairs.

Must be CHNC member in good standing.

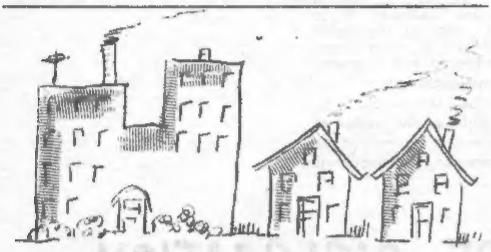
Experience as block-branch officer or council committee member helpful.

Dedicated, loyal to the council and firm in the fight for a better neighborhood.

POSITIONS: Officers of the CHNouncil, as president and vice president. No cash salary but work with other dedicated people and learn all about Clinton Hill and Newark.

BE PRESENT: On Nov. 6 at 750 Clinton Avenue at 8 p.m. for meeting of CHNC assembly.

Nominations from the floor and elections in accordance with CHNC By-Laws.



Item 1 - The council's Housing Committee will meet at Mrs. Troupe's, 868 S. 14 St. on Monday, Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.

Complaints of housing violations should be sent to Mrs. P. Caponigro, 860 S. 15 St. Or call 375-0601 or 371-0822. They will be forwarded to City Hall.

Item 2 - The Metropolitan Council on Housing, a fighting group in New York, will hold an all-day conference on "Breaking Out of the Slum Ghetto" on Nov. 14 at the McBurney YMCA on 23rd St. in Manhattan.

If you would like to attend call Mrs. R. Heyman, 371-0822.

The executive committee has allotted a small sum to cover people's traveling expenses. These conferences are good ways to learn about housing problems and how other groups are tackling them.

WATERS PHARMACY GETS S.B.A. AID

The Waters Pharmacy at 541 Clinton Ave. was one of several Newark businesses that got an improvement loan from the Federal Small Business Administration, it was reported in a Newark News story of Oct. 25.

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NOV. 20 - VOICES, INC.

BLAST INACTION IN CLINTON HILL SCHOOLS IN FACE OF MOUNTING ENROLLMENTS

Newark, Oct. 27 - Two speakers from Clinton Hill blasted the school administration for inaction and slowness in meeting growing class sizes in Clinton Hill schools.

They addressed the Newark Board of Education at its regular meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 31 Green Street.

Mrs. Gloria Washington, president of the Madison Ave. PTA, listed many grievances at that school. Themain one was overcrowded classes despite the recent building of 6 classrooms there.

Mrs. Helen Winters, council secretary and a member of the education committee, assailed a "growing crisis" resembling that of 7 years ago.

"We seem to be on a treadmill," Mrs. Winters said. She called for the Board to ask for Federal funds in connection with the Poverty Program and for Green Acres money from the State of New Jersey to expand recreational facilities.

MRS. LAYTON NAMED

Mrs. Elsie Layton of S. 14 St., a longtime member of the CHNC education committee, is now its chairman

The council again looks forward to the committee to resume activity and become the leading force that it was for many years in the schools fight in Newark.

"Neighborhood News" is also pleased at Mrs. Layton's swift recovery from her illness earlier this year and at Mr. Layton's improvement after a back injury on his job in January.

Illness- Mr. Clarence Lilley of Hunterdon St. is gravely ill in the hospital. Mr. Lilley spoke at the "blight" hearing in 1961 and at the Weisbart Memorial Meeting on Hunterdon St. last spring. He lives at 737 Hunterdon St.

ROUTE 78

Under the leadership of South Ward Councilman Lee Bernstein, there is still a faint hope of some change in the path of superhighway 78, according to the press.

The alignment down Hawthorne-Watson Aves. seems definite, but there may still be a change in the Fabyan Pl. alignment.

The City Council Committee headed by councilman Bernstein is trying to get Federal Highway Commissioner Whitton to change the alignment.

Personals

CHNC vice president Gladys Washington is recovering from a bad case of stiff neck... Mary Reaves of S. 14 St. is getting better from a sore throat which didn't stop her from picketing Madison Ave. School... The Winters (Helen and Stan) are enjoying the company of Neal (age 2 mos.), and so is 3-year-old Jenifer... Sorry that the Walicky's of S. 15 St. had to move. They wanted to stay but couldn't find an apartment for their growing family, moved into Roseville... Phoebe Porter, CHNC vice president is feeling better after a stay in the hospital. She was hostess to a marvelous Brunch for ministers to boost the Nov. 20 concert of VOICES, INC... (Send items to Neighborhood News at 26 Shanley Avenue)

NEWARK EVENING NEWS, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1964

Newark Free to Reactivate Clinton Hill Industrial Plan

By BOB SHABAZIAN

Newark is free to reactivate the proposed light industrial urban renewal project, following the refusal this week of the United States Supreme Court to hear an appeal by seven residents of the Clinton Hill section seeking to upset the project's blight declaration.

The court denied a writ of certiorari, according to a spokesman. It takes a vote of at least four justices to get the case heard, he said.

The case has been in litigation since 1961 when the 74-block area was declared blighted during the administration of former mayor Leo P. Carlin. The complaining residents filed appeals based on constitutional and technical grounds, and the blight declaration has been upheld from the lower courts, through the New Jersey Supreme Court and up to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Grounds of Petition

The petition before the Supreme Court was based on constitutional grounds, the plaintiffs contending the statute under which the blight hearing was held contained no reference to discrimination.

In the lower courts, the Clinton Hill residents contended that the declaration amount to "Negro clearance" and was discriminatory.

The plaintiffs also contended that the blight declaration was tantamount to the taking of their property without due process.

The city, the Central Planning Board and the Newark Housing Authority as the city's official redevelopment agency had been named defendants in the suit. The defendants were represented before the U.S. Supreme Court by David L. Krooth of Washington, special counsel.

The area in question slated for light industrial expansion is bounded by 17th, Watson and Belmont avenues and Bergen Street. Since 1962 and a new administration headed by Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio, the overall plan has been altered to include more residential redevelopment.

Addonizio's Plan

Addonizio has come out in favor of shrinking the amount of light industrial redevelopment and confining it in the area from Rose Street south to Watson Avenue.

The federal government has earmarked $10,337,032 for land acquisition and clearance in the project.

A spokesman for the housing authority said the project will be reactivated immediately and that work would proceed on drafting a land reuse plan for the area.

The proposed developers of the light industrial project is the Belmont Urban Renewal Corp., whose chief backers are Financial General Corp. of Washington, and Empire Properties of Chicago, the organization of financier Henry Crown.

18,000 PEOPLE FACE DISLOCATION

A BATTLE IS LOST- BUT THE FIGHT GOES ON!

OUR COUNCIL WHICH HAS FOUGHT ALMOST ALONE FOR 3 YEARS WILL NOT STOP NOW!

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SUPPORT NOV. 20 CONCERT OF VOICES, INC. TO RAISE FUNDS. THERE ARE LEGAL BILLS STILL TO BE PAID. THERE WILL BE MORE EXPENSES. PITCH IN NOW WHILE THERE'S TIME!

Sponsored by Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council

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